

***Porophyllum pygmaeum*** Keil & Morefield (1989)**PYGMY PORELEAF**

**FAMILY:** *Asteraceae*, the sunflower family.

**STATUS:**

**Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G2 S2**

**USFWS/ESA:** species of concern. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none. **BLM:** Special Status Species. **USFS:** none.

**NNNPS:** watch list.

**POPULATION CENSUS:** 12 occurrences mapped; total estimated individuals 524+, total estimated area unknown.

**TREND:** unknown.

**IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS:** Threatened by off road vehicles.

**INVENTORY EFFORT:** Some targeted surveys have been conducted but much potential habitat remains unexamined.

Most recent entered survey 1993, average year of last survey 1983. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **6-10 yrs:** 16.7%; **11-20 yrs:** 33.3%; **21-30 yrs:** 50%.

**LAND MANAGEMENT** in decreasing predominance: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of Defense.

**RANGE:** Clark and Lincoln counties, Nevada. **Nevada endemic.** Maximum range dimension 27.9 km (17.4 mi) excluding most disjunct record. **Type specimen** collected in Clark County.

**ELEVATIONS RECORDED:** 4200-6800 feet (1280-2073 meters).

**HABITAT:** Dry, open, relatively deep, rocky carbonate soils of alluvial fans and hillsides, often in slight depressions, low benches adjacent to minor drainages, or other moisture-enhanced microsites, in the blackbrush, mixed-shrub, and lower pinyon-juniper zones.

**PHENOLOGY:** flowering late-spring. Range of most frequent **survey months:** April-October.

**LIFE-FORM AND HABIT:** rhizomatous perennial herb.

**DESCRIPTION:** A pungently aromatic perennial herb, 5-15 cm tall, that produces rayless yellow (often tinged with red or green) flower heads in June. Herbage is studded with conspicuous oil glands.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Knight and Smith (1994), Knight et al. (1997); Nevada Natural Heritage Program slide collection (1986-present) and files.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Cronquist (1994), Keil and Morefield (1989).

**SPECIFIC REFERENCES:**

Keil, D. J. and J. D. Morefield. 1989. *Porophyllum pygmaeum* (Asteraceae), a distinctive new species from southern Nevada. *Systematic Botany* 14: 583-588.

**OF FURTHER INTEREST:** Described in 1989. Cronquist considered it a "dwarf" form of *P. gracile* (Ackerman letter 1989), but it is quite distinct from that species.

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